THE LAST AMERICAN VAGABOND

Wednesday, December 09, 2020

TRAVELING THE WORLD, WRITING WHAT THE PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW.

Media Ignores Israel Connection to Eric Schmidt's Push For NY "Smart Cities"

May 20, 2020 Whitney Webb Comments(10)

With NY Governor Andrew Cuomo recently announcing that former head of Google, Eric Schmidt, would lead an effort to "reimagine" post-pandemic life in the state, media reports have failed to note that the groundwork for that "reimagining" was laid last year and intimately involves the state of Israel.

In recent weeks, considerable media attention has been given to the decision by NY Governor Andrew Cuomo to tap former Google executive Eric Schmidt to lead a 15-member panel tasked with "reimagining" New York's post-pandemic tech infrastructure as well as its education, economic and healthcare system. Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates was also recruited for this initiative by Gov. Cuomo, leading some American media outlets to criticize the venture as turning New York "into a Silicon Valley science experiment."

However, it is much more than merely a Silicon Valley experiment. As *The Last American Vagabond* reported last month, Schmidt currently chairs the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence (NSCAI), which discussed plans last May regarding how to re-make American society to foster the mass adoption of AI-driven technologies, including so-called "smart cities" and related systems of mass surveillance. That commission includes key people, not just from Silicon Valley, but also the U.S. military and intelligence communities – a testament to how the divisions between Big Tech, the Pentagon and U.S. intelligence have become increasingly blurred in recent years.

Unsurprisingly, one of the main initiatives that the Schmidt-chaired New York panel is set to promote is the fast-tracking of "smart city" implementation as outlined by the Schmidt-chaired NSCAI. The use of the term "reimagining" in the announcement that Schmidt would chair this panel also underscores this point, given that Google's "smart city" subsidiary, Sidewalk Labs, describes itself as "reimagining cities from the Internet up." Smart cities are more accurately defined as cities that are micromanaged by technocrats via an all encompassing system of mass surveillance and a vast array of "internet of things" devices that provide a constant and massive stream of data that is analyzed by artificial intelligence (AI).

Notably, Cuomo's appointment of Schmidt to lead this panel aimed at "reimagining" life in New York came right before news broke that a Google subsidiary was scrapping its plans to build a smart city prototype in Toronto. Schmidt still chaired Google's parent company, Alphabet, when that deal was first negotiated in 2017. At the time, Schmidt had said that Google's effort to turn Toronto into a "smart city" had come "from Google's founders getting excited thinking of 'all t
things you could do if someone would just give us a city and put us in charge'."

Wired which claims that "smart city planning could slow future pandemics" and an article from *Forbes* about how "smart cities are protecting against coronavirus."

While the current coronavirus crisis and Schmidt's increasingly public role in ushering in AI-driven technological "solutions" throughout New York have given a boost to the smart city agenda, the plan to create these cities in New York was in the works well before coronavirus. However, those pre-pandemic smart city plans intimately involve one key actor that has, thus far, gone unnamed in recent media reports – the state of Israel.

Who will build New York's Smart Cities?

Last June, NY Governor Cuomo announced a $2 million partnership agreement with the Israel Innovation Authority, a branch of Israel's Economy Ministry, that aimed to "further strengthen economic development ties between New York State and Israel." The agreement was specifically related to the "co-development and commercialization" for technologies related to smart cities, cybersecurity and drones (unmanned aerial vehicles), among others.

A key component of this partnership was the creation of the "Smart Cities Innovation Partnership (SCIP)," which Cuomo's office described as "a new initiative that will share innovative technologies, research, talent and business resources between cities in New York and Israel." It was also stated that "New York and Israel will contribute an equivalent amount of matching resources" to the project. Cuomo, at the time, also said that New York's Incubator programs for start-ups – an initiative with funds exceeding $5 million — would "implement a new focus on Israeli companies," as opposed to local companies.

Regarding this new "Smart Cities Innovation Partnership," Dr. Ami Applebaum – chairman of the Israel Innovation Authority and Chief Scientists of the Israel's Economy Ministry – stated the following:

> *"As technology advances and touches every facet of our daily lives,* ***the future of Smart Cities is just around the corner*** *and highly depends to [sic] new and innovative technologies. This collaboration between the ESD (Empire State Development of New York State) and the Israel Innovation Authority, facilitated by ou*

Trade Administration (FTA), headed by Mr. Inon Elroy, Economic Minister to North America, will provide startups an opportunity for pilot validation sites to address the strategic concerns of both States such as cybersecurity, supply chain, energy, health, transportation, wastewater, water, civic engagement, parks, public works, and safety."

The partnership specifically called for the establishment of five "Smart Cities" in Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) regions in New York that would interact with "test bed sites" created in Israel. This means that this "smart city" partnership only involves the creation of smart cities in New York, not Israel, but gives Israeli companies a major role in designing these five New York smart cities.

Though the press release from last year claims this would be an "equal venture," an article on the SCIP published by *The Jerusalem Post* in March asserts that New York's state government will be funding the entire $2 million project, giving $1 million to the Israel Innovation Authority and $1 million to Israeli companies. The New York government website, however, currently states that the $2 million partnership involves New York state giving $1 million exclusively to New York-based companies and the Israel Innovation Authority giving additional $1 million exclusively for Israeli companies seeking to develop New York-based projects.

On March 18, the SCIP was launched "via educational outreach and solicitation of interest in different New York localities." The five "winning" New York municipalities, who will be announced in July, will be required "to designate physical or virtual sites to be used in new pilot technologies" sometime over the course of 2020, with those "smart city" technologies being implemented in early 2021.

The selection of the projects will be overseen by Eric Gertler, President and CEO of the Empire State Development (ESD), who was nominated to the position shortly after Cuomo announced the NY-Israel Smart City partnership and returned to a trip from Israel. Notably, Gertler is also currently chairman of the America-Israel Friendship League (AIFL) and is on the Board of Governors for Tel Aviv University and Israel's Technion. He also has long-standing close ties to Mort Zuckerman, a Zionist media mogul who recently came under fire for his ties to his former business associate Jeffrey Epstein. Gertler used to work for Zuckerman as former co-publisher of the Zuckerman

Smart Cities and CyberNYC

The initiation of the SCIP followed the launch of another major New York partnership with Israel that created two new, massive cybersecurity centers. Those cybersecurity centers, built in New York City and funded by New York taxpayers, are managed by private Israeli companies with close ties to Israel's government, pro-Israel lobby organizations and Israeli intelligence-linked firms. Known as "CyberNYC" and first announced in 2018, the program officially seeks to "spur the creation of 10,000 cybersecurity jobs and make New York City a global leader in cyber innovation."

However, Jerusalem Venture Partners (JVP) and SOSA –the two Israeli companies set to run these two "CyberNYC" centers – have been rather clear that they view the centers, not as a "collaborative" effort, but as a means for providing Israeli cybersecurity companies a foothold in the American market and as a springboard for their global expansion. A report I previously wrote for *MintPress News* noted that both JVP and SOSA are Israeli government and military contractors and are also connected to Israel's intelligence apparatus, particularly companies started by former members of Israel's Unit 8200 signal intelligence unit. Notably, SOSA's "CyberNYC" center in particular is associated with the America-Israel Friendship League, chaired by the President of New York's ESD Eric Gertler who is involved in the NY-Israel "Smart Cities Innovation Partnership."

Though there are numerous other such connections, the most crucial and relevant to note is that the "CyberNYC" initiative directly involves the participation of the Unit 8200 "start-up incubator" called Team8. As I previously reported for *MintPress:*

> ***"Team8, particularly its presence in New York, has long been associated with the push by pro-Israel political donor and American hedge fund manager Paul Singer and Israel's government to make Israel the global cybersecurity leader as a means of preventing countries from boycotting Israel over human rights violations and war crimes. Team8's role in CyberNYC will see them not only finance part of the initiative but also training cybersecurity workers who will be hired as part of the partnership."***

head of the U.S.' National Security Agency (NSA) Mike Rogers, who now works for Team8. Another notable U.S. connection to Team8 is the fact that one of Team8's leading investors is none other than Eric Schmidt, who is now set to "reimagine" life in New York at Cuomo's behest. In addition to Team8, Schmidt's Innovation Endeavors fund is heavily invested in several Israeli "internet of things" companies and other Israeli hi-tech start-ups.

In addition, Schmidt's former employer, Google, has partnered with the Israeli company Carbyne911 for the implementation of emergency services and 911 call functions for "smart cities." Carbyne911 is chaired by former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and was partially financed by Barak's close friend Jeffery Epstein. Its software, designed by former Unit 8200 members, has built-in "pre-crime" functionality, among other Orwellian features.

Given that Schmidt's involvement in the new Cuomo-created panel to "reimagine" New York's tech infrastructure, it is very disconcerting that media reports have failed to even mention the clear role that Israeli government-backed initiatives, as well as Israeli intelligence-linked start-ups and incubators, are set to have on New York's future.

These ties are particularly concerning given that Israel's government and intelligence service has a long history of aggressively spying on the U.S. federal government and/or blackmailing top American politicians, particularly using technological means. In addition, Israel's government under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has an explicit policy of creating U.S. dependence on Israeli tech companies in order to counter the nonviolent Boycott, Divest and Sanctions (BDS) movement within the U.S. and to make Israel the dominant global "cyber power." It is no coincidence, then, that Israel has also been chosen by other countries with strong Zionist lobbies to create "smart cities," some specifically for "low-income residents," in places like Brazil and elsewhere in the years since this policy began in 2012.

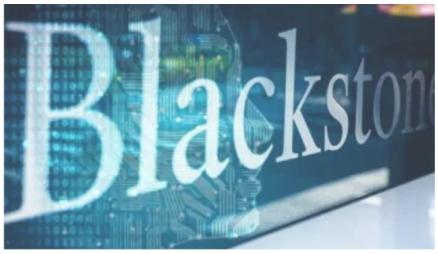
Of course, while these policies and the NY-Israel smart city partnership are set to be a major boon for Israeli companies and Israel's geopolitical goals, New Yorkers stand to be the biggest losers of the "reimagining" of their state. Not only are high-paying jobs in New York's hi-tech future being given to foreigners and foreign-owned companies, but also the already privacy-eroding potential of "smart cities" will be placed largely in the hands of a foreign power.

Question Everything, Come To Your Own Conclusions.

Share this:

Facebook Twitter Reddit LinkedIn Email Print More

Related



The Real Reason Why Blackstone is Courting the Pentagon
August 19, 2020
In "Conspiracy"

Google And Corporate News Giants Forge New Alliance To Defeat Independent Journalism
March 26, 2018
In "Censorship"

Google's Eric Schmidt Says Americans Too Dumb To Detect Fake News, Plans To "Derank" Russian News
November 22, 2017
In "Censorship"

Share on Facebook Tweet on twitter Share on google+

Pin to pinterest

Tagged Andrew Cuomo, Bill Gates, Coronavirus, CyberNYC, Eric Gertler, Eric Schmidt, Israel, Jerusalem Venture Partners, New York, SCIP, SOSA

Whitney Webb

Whitney Webb is a staff writer for The Last American Vagabond. She has previously written for Mintpress News, Ben Swann's Truth In Media. Her work has appeared on Global Research, the Ron Paul Institute and 21st Century Wire, among others. She currently lives with her family in southern Chile.
https://www.thelastamericanvagabond.com/category/whitney-webb/

Foreign Policy Human Rights Politics Social Engineering Top News World

Saudi Arabia Admits It Made "Mistakes" In Targeting Civilians In Yemen

October 2, 2018 Middle East Monitor

The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on Monday examined the Saudi record on compliance with a treaty protocol on children in armed conflict, and repeatedly raised the issue of children killed by coalition attacks in Yemen. Saudi Arabia said on Monday it was working hard to correct mistaken targeting by its military

Read More...

Share this:

Facebook Twitter Reddit LinkedIn Email Print More

Trump Admits His Mideast Policy Guided by Israeli, Not American, Interests

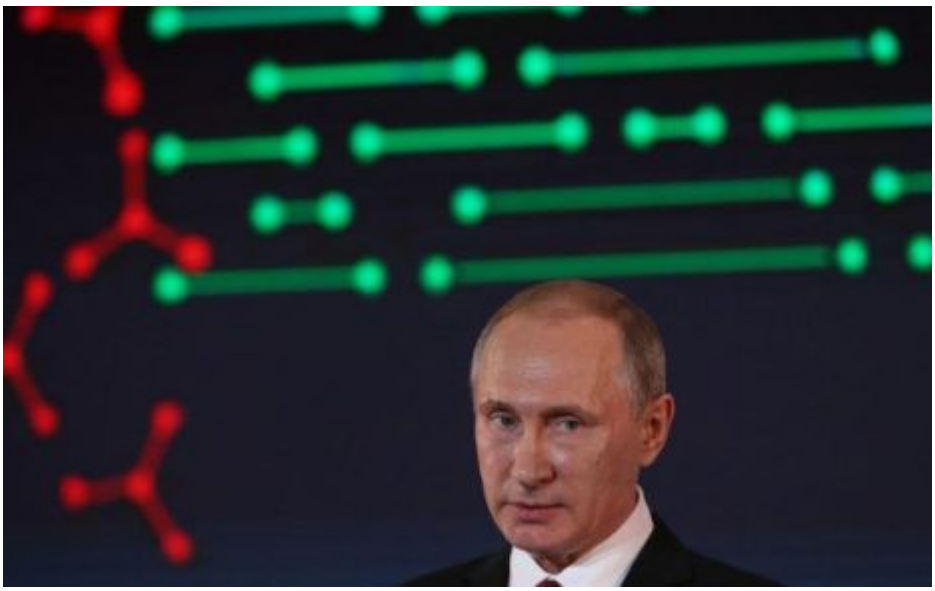
December 20, 2018 Whitney Webb

Trump has now publicly admitted that – when it comes to U.S. military involvement and covert intervention in the Middle East – he is putting Israel, not America, first. WASHINGTON — In a recent interview with the Washington Post, U.S. President Donald Trump publicly stated that his administration's Middle East policy – including the illegal U.S. military occupation of nearly

Read More...

Share this:

Facebook Twitter Reddit LinkedIn Email Print More



Conspiracy Cyberwarfare Foreign Policy Government Politics Propaganda Top News World

Ex-CIA Agent on Report Tying Russia to Election Hacking: 'Absolutely No Evidence'

December 31, 2016 Carey Wedler

On Thursday, the FBI and Department of Homeland Security released a joint analysis report addressing persistent allegations that the Russian government hacked the U.S. election. Though, as the White House fact sheet asserts, the report largely consists of tips to improve cyber security and prevent future attacks, it also appears to cite evidence Russian Intelligence

Read More...

Share this:

Facebook Twitter Reddit LinkedIn Email Print More

10 Replies to “Media Ignores Israel Connection to Eric Schmidt’s Push For NY “Smart Cities””

Kari

May 20, 2020 at 12:38 pm

The reporting done by Whitney Webb is phenomenal and a logjam to mainstream media’s campaign of brainwashing and propaganda.

Reply

Tony

June 20, 2020 at 8:59 am

Her investigative journalism reminds me of the late, great, Michael Collins Piper.

Reply

Rodney

May 20, 2020 at 2:14 pm

Yes they tried it on Toronto waterfront, and were thrown out, no one wants an invasive home..

Reply

Lasalle

May 20, 2020 at 7:27 pm

This is part of the agenda, to bankrupt these places Chicago, Northern California, Southern California, New York in order to implement “Smart Cities.” This is why these places still have lock down measures. Its no way businesses can survive this long without revenue in these places. Who will be buying up all the real estate in these places? Big Tech. Who is the “God Father” of Silicon Valley? Bill Gates. Studying what

7 billion down to 1 billion because they don't need humans any more, at least 7 billion. These smart cities won't need humans. The human race is in real trouble. However, its no way I'm convince that this planet is ran by humans. Advance extraterrestrial beings and aliens have always controlled planet earth. They never left. Where do you think this technology come from? We been reverse engineering extraterrestrial/alien technology since the 1930's at least that's far back as I can go.

Reply

Danse

May 21, 2020 at 6:27 am

Endless thanks and deep Love to Whitney from France !

Reply

DB Santana

May 22, 2020 at 8:56 am

mportant article. Just a note that the creation and development of Silicon Valley was military from the beginning. It was and is a key component of the military-industrial-academic complex. Stanford University is a key component.

Reply

Janet

May 22, 2020 at 3:25 pm

Thanks, Whitney. My questioning and free-thinking independence led me to you. I love going down rabbit holes and am glad that I was standing in the line when God handed out intelligence, intuition, and the ability to do long research and sort the wheat from the chaff. You go, girl!

Reply

May 22, 2020 at 7:01 pm

once again Whitney Webb dropping truthbombs and warnings like a true muckraker. brilliant article as always, very troubling and should receive far more attention then is treated.

Reply

Chris Mahlberg

May 26, 2020 at 7:33 am

This is a good point but $2M is such a small amount of money in the scope of NYC.

Reply

Tommo61

June 1, 2020 at 7:15 pm

Everyone goes on about China and Huawei. All software and the web was designed starting with ideas out of military intelligence posted WW2 to surveil you.

In-Q-Tel (CIA) seed funded all Microsoft, Google, facebook, etc. This was designed. Snowden tells us how much they can see what you to. Its shocking what he outlined.

China does not want the USA system. We dont want their system and the USA should be saying we dont want Israel's one. While you are going on about China, Isreal is slipping in the back door. We just want freedom , not a DIGITAL CONCENTRATION CAMP.

NO DIGITAL CONCENTRATION CAMP

Everyone should be saying no to further incursion from USA, say to China dont repeat what the deep tsate USA had done.(well outlined by Snowden and Binney) and you would be welcome. Plus no repeat from Isreal either.

Reply

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

Comment

Name *

Email *

Website

Post Comment

Become A TLAV Member

Option 1 : $1.00 USD - monthly

Type Your Name and Hit Enter

WKUP “The Shift”

Listen Now

Now Playing Powered by Airtime Pro

Radiate
SharkLegs

Next Cuesta Drive - All Along

Tweet Share

The Daily Wrap Up

'Immunity Cards' Are Now Official & More Experts Speak Out About COVID Vaccines
DECEMBER 4, 2020

00:00

'Immunity Cards' Are Now Official & More Experts Speak Out About COVID Vaccines – D..1:54:06
The Coming "Cyber Pandemic" And 'Virus Mimicking' Nanotech & The COVID Vaccine Ma..2:54:34
The Eugenicist Mindset Propelling Operation Warp Speed w/ Whitney Webb – NOVEMBER 3..1:30:28
Reported COVID-19 Deaths 'Almost Exactly Equal To' Total Decrease In Deaths By All Othe...1:16:24
Israel Assassinates Top Iranian Scientist & The Israeli Gov's Undue/Illicit US Influence – N...2:06:07
Trump Admin Authorizes Biden Transition Funds & Responsibility To Disobey Unjust Laws ..1:49:49
The Great Mask Deception, How PCR Tests Create A COVID Illusion & Thinking For Yoursel...3:15:24
The "SPARS Pandemic Of 2025" Simulation & The Dangerous Bipartisan Vaccine Agenda ...1:26:55
Intl Journal Of Infectious Diseases & Major Danish Study Show Masks Have 'No Effect' On ...2:2
WEF Admits COVID Was Around In Mid-2019 & It's Admitted The Vaccine Will NOT Return ...2:3

Popular Posts

West Papua: The Genocide That Is Being Ignored by The World

The Podesta Brothers Revealed to be in Portugal the Day of Madeleine McCann's Disappearance

February 11, 2019

The Complete History Of Monsanto, "The World's Most Evil Corporation"

November 21, 2016

Parents Catch FBI In Plot To Force Mentally Ill Son To Be A Right Wing Terrorist

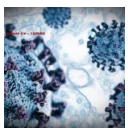
Techno-Tyranny: How The US National Security State Is Using Coronavirus To Fulfill An Orwellian Vision

March 15, 2016

February 15, 2018

Recent Posts

April 20, 2020



FDA Admits 2 People Died In Pfizer Trials, Vaccines And Nanoparticles & Debunking Another Mask Study

December 8, 2020

Florida Department of Health Quietly Requires Labs to Report Cycle Threshold of Troubled PCR Test

December 7, 2020

Withholding Stimulus Unless Vaccinated, Doctors Paid Per Vaccination & PCR Test Further Callea

Foreign Policy With Robert Inlakesh – An Iranian Commander Was Not Killed In Syria, All Evidence Suggests

December 5, 2020

'Immunity Cards' Are Now Official & More Experts Speak Out About COVID Vaccines

December 4, 2020

Subscribe To Our TLAV Podcast

Apple Podcasts

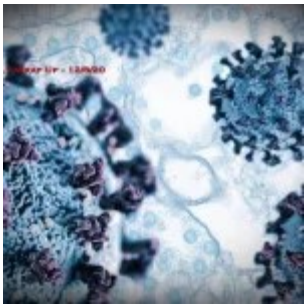
Google Podcasts

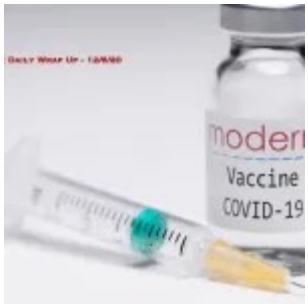
Android

by Email

RSS

Photos





Follow the change. Be the change.